Library

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

NEWENT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the Year

1954

M.L. SUTCLIFFE

T.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NEWENT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Hygiene Conditions and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1954.

It includes the report of the Sanitary Inspectors and is compiled to conform with Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 28/54, dated 15th December, 1954.

In accordance with the above circular, the distribution of this report is a wide one, and includes:-

The Ministry of Health.
The County Medical Officer of Health.
The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food.
The Ministry of Housing and Local Government.
The Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Details are given in the report on the environmental health conditions in the District and also particulars of the routine work carried out by the Public Health Department.

In the tables on vital statistics it will be noted that the birth rate is considerably above, and the death rate considerably below those for England and Wales. The infantile mortality rate is rather high, but it is very satisfactory to note that there have been no deaths of mothers in child-birth since 1946.

I should like to thank the Public Health staff for their work and their assistance in the compilation of this report, which shows the very considerable amount of work done by the Department.

I should also like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their courtesy and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

MAURICE L. SUTCLIFFE.

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

M.L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Joint M.O.H. Committee, and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for No. 5 Division (Gloucester Area Health Sub-Committee).

H.S. JENKINSON, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor. Inspector under Petroleum Acts and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

B.G.H. RISBEY, C.R.S.I., Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

MISS M.C. DAVIS. Clerk (part time).

MRS. M.B. GOUGH. Clerk (part time).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area (in acres), 40,845.

Population Registrar-General's estimated Home Population mid-1954, 8,210.

Number of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1954) according to Rate Books, 2,544.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1954), £29,907.

Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1954), £119.16.5.

General Rate 1954-55, 20s.2d. (County Precept 17s.6d).

The District is practically entirely agricultural, with its shopping centre in Newent. A considerable number of the inhabitants work outside the District in Gloucester and in factories in the Gloucester Rural District. Newent is the centre for secondary school education in the District.

ADOPTIVE LEGISLATION IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Byelaws.

i. Building Byelaws (adopted 1.8.53).

ii. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air (adopted 14.8.50).

VITAL STATISTICS.

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the District, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 30.

Table 1. Infantile Births and Deaths.

	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.			Combined Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births.	68	80	148	2	–	2	150
Still Births.	1	2	3	–	–	–	3
Infant Deaths:							
(a) 0–4 weeks.	1	2	3	–	–	–	3
(b) 4 weeks to 1 year.	1	1	2	–	–	–	2

Table 2. Deaths.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Deaths.	42	46	88

Table 3. Birth and Death Rates.

	Newent Rural District.	England and Wales.
Crude live birth rate per 1,000 population.	18.27	15.2
* Corrected live birth rate per 1,000 population.	21.01	
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births.	19. 0	24.0
Crude death rate per 1,000 population.	10. 7	11.3
* Corrected death rate per 1,000 population.	9. 3	
Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births.	33. 3	25.5
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	33. 8	Not available
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	–	
Death rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births.	–	0.69

* Note. – The Corrected Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates by the factors 1.15 and 0.87 respectively. These factors are supplied by the Registrar-General and serve to make the Crude Rates for the District comparable with the Rates for the country as a whole, or with the Rates of any other area, whose Rates have been similarly modified.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of pathological specimens, and analyses of milk and ice cream samples etc., is carried out at the laboratory of the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, under the Medical Research Council Scheme. (There is no charge for this work).

Water and sewage analyses, taken by this Department, are carried out by the Council's Analysts, Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

Water analyses of the Gloucester Corporation water supplies are carried out by the Corporation Analyst.

Hospitals.

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention who are dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over, which is administered by the Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee.

Ambulance Facilities.

1 County Council ambulance and 3 full-time driver-attendants are stationed in Newent. Infectious disease cases are transported by the Isolation Hospital.

Nursing in the Home.

There are 3 District Nursing Associations in the area which are supervised by the County.

The whole District is covered by the nurses, who, in addition to midwifery and home-nursing, act as Health Visitors for the County and carry out school medical work, Health and Tuberculosis visiting etc.

Home Help Service.

This service is administered by the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council.

The following types of cases are assisted and the figures on the 31st December, 1954, were:-

Maternity cases.	3
General sickness.	5
Tuberculosis.	1
Chronic sick or old age.	20
Total	29

This total of 29 compares with a total of 25 in December, 1953. The scheme is very popular and means that many cases cared for are able to remain in their own homes instead of being sent to hospitals or institutions. This means a considerable saving in the ratepayers money.

There were, on the 31st December, 1954, 26 part-time home helps in the District, which is an increase of 10 in the year.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

These Centres are under the general administration of the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council, but as this Committee is composed of Members of this Council together with Members of Tewkesbury Borough and Gloucester Rural District Council, it is felt that the following particulars of the work done by the Centres serving the District are of interest.

The Centre at Ashleworth is in Gloucester Rural District, but serves this Council's Parishes of Corse, Hartpury and Staunton (about 50% of the children attending).

The work done at these Centres is shown in Table 4 which is compiled from attendance figures submitted to the Divisional Health Office. Very many thanks are due to the Voluntary Committees and helpers, and the valuable work done is shown in the following Table.

Table 4.

Centre.	No. of sessions in 1954.	No. of first attendances.		Total No. of attendances.		
		Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Total
Ashleworth.	23	23	12	137	327	499
Dymock.	15	34	7	158	250	449
Newent.	27	38	7	311	567	923

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are administered by the County Council, and are held at The Clinic, Picklenash School, Newent.

MORTUARY.

In 1940, as part of A.R.P., the Chapel portion of the Cemetery building was converted into a Mortuary. Main water and sewerage are provided. It was used once in 1954.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE DISTRICT.

Water Supplies.

Main Supplies.

1. Gloucester Corporation.

The District is mainly supplied from the Corporation's two pumping stations in the Newent area.

Samples from these sources are regularly analyse by the City Analyst and reports of those taken in the District are submitted to this Department (see Table 5). They were all satisfactory for human consumption, but according to the classification of the Central Advisory Water Committee are "very hard".

In accordance with the Gloucester Corporation Water Act, 1945, the Corporation lays mains as required by this Council, subject to sanction for major extensions being given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the County Council in order to obtain loans and grants.

Extensions of Mains in 1954.

Parish.	Size of Main.	Length (Yards).
Newent.	9"	467
	6"	5,399
	4"	6,334
	3"	1,415
Hartpury.	3"	788
		8¼ miles

Extensions of Mains authorised by the Council.

Parish.	Size of Main.	Length (Yards).
Newent.	9"	1,700
	4"	1,300
	3"	3,730
Taynton.	4"	1,830
	3"	2,314
Hartpury.	3"	2,217
Dymock.	6"	5,100
	4"	7,917
	3"	5,033
Corse.	3"	240
Rudford.	3"	704
		18¼ miles

2. Malvern Urban District Council.

This authority supplies the Parish of Bromsberrow and part of the Parishes of Dymock and Redmarley. There were no extensions of mains in 1954.

Table 5 shows that main water samples taken in the District were satisfactory.

Water Shortage in the District.

No official complaints of water shortage owing to the drying up of wells were received during the year, but this may have been due to the very adequate rain-fall.

No further progress has been made in connection with the test borehole sunk by the Malvern Urban District Council at Lintridge.

Well Supplies.

These supplies cannot be considered either satisfactory for human consumption or adequate for present day needs, and the availability of main supplies is very necessary. Not one sample of well supplies taken during the year was satisfactory.

It is most regrettable that, according to the 1951 Census, the adequate provision of main water in this District, was less than in any other County District in Gloucestershire.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses of Water Supplies serving the District.

Table 5.

Source of Supply.	Total No. of Analyses.	Bacteriological.		Chemical.	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Gloucester Corporation.	17	9	-	8	-
Malvern U.D.C. Wells Etc. (Council Analyst).	5	-	5	-	-

I have to acknowledge with thanks the reports on the Gloucester Corporation and Malvern Urban District water analyses which are sent to this Department by the courtesy of the City Water Engineer and the Malvern Urban District Council Water Engineer respectively.

Main Water Supplies in the District showing the Number of Houses and Population served.

(These figures are provided in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 28/54).

Table 6.

Parish.	Main Supply.	No. of houses supplied.	Pop.	Stand Pipes (Main)	No. of houses supplied.	Pop.
Bromsberrow.	Malvern U.D.C.	46	148	1	2	7
Corse.	Glos. Corporation.	60	192	–	–	–
Dymock.	Malvern U.D.C.	43	138	4	26	83
	Glos. Corporation.	113	362	–	–	–
Hartpury.	" "	75	240	–	–	–
Kempley.	" "	48	154	–	–	–
Newent.	Newent Town (Glos. Corporation).	420	1,344	7	19	70
	Glos. Corporation.	157	503	–	–	–
Oxenhall.	" "	40	128	–	–	–
Pauntley.	" "	24	77	1	1	4
Redmarley.	" "	96	308	–	–	–
	Malvern U.D.C.	12	39	–	–	–
Rudford.	Glos. Corporation.	41	132	–	–	–
Staunton.	" "	73	234	–	–	–
Taynton.	" "	21	68	–	–	–
Tibberton.	" "	51	164	–	–	–
Upleadon.	" "	50	160	–	–	–
	TOTAL	1,370	4,391	13	48	164

The above table shows that a further 100 houses were connected to the main during the year. Over 50% of the population have main supplies compared with only 29% in 1945.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION.

Most sewage disposal in the District is on the "conservancy" system, i.e., householders dispose of their own sewage. The Council's sewage disposal plants are as follows:-

i. Newent Town. These works at Cleeve Lane are old, out of date and practically useless from the sewage purification aspect. The Council's Consulting Engineer has proposed new works under consideration, but difficulties are arising in connection with the site, so very little progress has been made.

ii. Dymock Village. These modern works are satisfactory, and 32 houses are now connected to it. It is much regretted that the school is not yet connected, but plans to provide new offices and do this are under consideration.

iii. Corse and Staunton. These new works are satisfactory and provide sewage disposal for the 12 new Council houses and a few private ones.

iv. Redmarley. The Council's works serve the 16 Council houses and one private house.
A village ditch is the only method of sewage disposal for a number of houses, and is cleansed by the Council. It is not satisfactory.

Sewer Extensions.

90 feet of sewer extensions were laid during the year.

Latrine Accommodation.

8 bucket or privy latrines were converted to W.C's during the year.

Public Lavatories.

These are situated at Newent and Dymock, and on the whole are satisfactory.

Refuse Collection.

The whole District is scavenged, tips in use being situated at Highleadon, Dymock and Malswick. Trade refuse is collected from some premises on payment.

Salvage.

There was an increased demand for paper salvage during the year. About 18 tons were collected and sold for £133.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Department is given in the following table.

Table 7.

	No. of Inspections.	Notices Served.		Defects remedied after Notice.	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses.	532	121	4	97	3
Milk and Dairies.	16	–	–	–	–
Factories etc.	99	3	–	3	–
Bakehouses.	17	3	–	3	–
Food Premises.	40	8	–	8	–
Slaughterhouses.	182	3	–	3	–
Water Supplies.	284	14	1	12	1
Drainage & Sewerage.	654	32	–	32	–
Infectious Disease.	8	Disinfection carried out when necessary			
Pests.	411	11	–	11	–
Miscellaneous.	1,464	14	–	14	–
TOTAL	3,707	209	5	183	4

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Responsibility for the administration of Section 38, sub-sections 3, 4 and 5 were delegated to this Authority by the County Council in 1952. These sub-sections deal with the health conditions of shop workers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

No licences were issued during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades in the District.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS, 1928-1936.

40 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit and one for the storage of calcium carbide.

CAMPING SITES.

4 licences were issued during the year for individual caravans, and there are now 31 current licences in the District. They comply with the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints were received during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public swimming baths. Some use is made of the River Leadon for bathing purposes.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS, STREAMS, ETC.

The River Severn Board, an authority created under the River Boards Act, 1948, is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act of 1876.

DISINFESTATION (BED BUGS ETC).

2 complaints were received and the necessary disinfestation carried out.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report by the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the following work was carried out:-

Table 8.

	Inspections.	Treatments.
Private Dwellings.	120	18
Council Houses.	21	-
Farms.	50	G. A. E. C.
Business Premises.	155	5
Sewers.	15	Nil.
Refuse Tips.	50	6
TOTAL	411	29

Details of work carried out on Sewers and Refuse Tips.

Table 9.

Sewers and Works.	Action Taken.	Result.
Cleeve Lane Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Cadbury's Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Lancaster Terrace Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Newent Town Sewers.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Dymock Sewerage System.	Test Baited.	Clear.

Table 10.

Refuse Tips.	Action Taken.	Result.
Dymock Refuse Tip.	Test Baited (3 treatments).	Clear.
Highleadon Refuse Tip.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Malswick Tip.	Test Baited (3 treatments).	Under Observation.

When this Council carries out treatments at private dwellings or business premises at the request of the owner/occupier, charges are made to cover the full cost of the treatments except in the case of old age pensioners.

The Council have no arrangements to carry out disinfestation by contract.

SCHOOLS.

Hygiene defects are noted at school medical inspections and reported to the County Medical Officer of Health who takes action when necessary, with the County Education Department. During the year Redmarley Lowbands school was connected to the water mains, and it is satisfactory to note that all the schools in the District now have main supplies. This compares with only 5 schools with main supplies in 1938. Improvements in school buildings especially in connection with sanitary annexes are under consideration by the County Education Department.

Table 11. Water Supplies and Latrine Accommodation in Schools.

School.	Water Supply.	Remarks on Water Supply.	Type of Latrine.
Bromsberrow.	Main.	Malvern U.D.C.	Bucket.
Corse.	"	Glos. Corporation.	"
Dymock.	"	" "	W.C's.
Hartpury.	"	" "	"
Newent.	"	" "	"
Pauntley.	"	" "	"
Redmarley. (Lowbands).	"	" "	Earth Closet.
Staunton.	"	" "	Bucket.
Tibberton.	"	" "	W.C's.
Upleadon.	"	" "	"

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

By this Authority.	18
By Private Enterprise.	15
Total	33

Council houses under construction:-

Cliffords Mesne.	6 Traditional.

Council's Housing Programme for 1954-55:-

Picklenash, Newent.	36 Traditional.

The Council owned 281 houses at the end of 1954, and these were erected in the following periods:-

Pre-War.	126
During War.	4
Post-War.	151

The total of only 18 Council houses completed during the year is not very good and additional housing in the District is urgently required, for example, the number of applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of 1954 was 451, an increase of 45 on the previous year.

In accordance with the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, the Council is required to submit proposals to the Ministry by August, 1955, for dealing with houses in the District considered unfit for human habitation and liable to demolition.

A special housing survey was, therefore, started in 1954, in order to obtain an up to date list of these houses.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) (i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 335

(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 532

(b) (i) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932 etc. 122

(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 156

(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 45
(This number is in addition to those previously reported).

(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 148

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 130

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. -

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. -

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -

(a) by Owners. -

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners. -

(c) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 section 138 and the Water Act, 1945 section 30.

(i) Number of houses in which a main water supply was provided after service of formal notices -

(a) by Owners. -

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners. 2

(d) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 1

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order. 1

(e) Proceedings under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

It is doubtful if any change in conditions occurred during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47)
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

These Acts authorise the Council and their Medical Officer of Health to arrange for the compulsory removal of aged and sick persons living in insanitary conditions, to a hospital or residential institution.

During the year, an aged couple had to be removed, but they settled down quite happily in Westbury Hall Residential Home.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

In Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 a request was made that the Public Health Department include a detailed report on food premises in the District. Table 12 gives the particulars asked for.

Table 12.

Type of Business.	Total Number.	No. of Inspections.	Remarks.
Cafes & Canteens.	16	32	This includes school canteens.
Grocery and Provision Shops.	47	102	This includes sweet shops and chemists.
Ice Cream Vendors.	11	12	Registered under S. 14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938.
Butchers Shops.	5	39	No shops are registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938. (Sausage making etc).
Fishmongers.	2	8	This includes fried and wet fish.
Bakehouses.	6	17	These are small and generally fall short of up-to-date hygiene standards.
Licensed Premises.	18	23	Considerable improvements have been carried out in recent years, and the owners co-operate with our requirements.
Dairies.	3	16	Registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.
Wholesale Premises. (Food Manufacture).	Nil	Nil	Registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938.
TOTAL	108	249	

Generally speaking, the standards of the food premises mentioned in Table 12 are satisfactory.

Disposal of condemned food is a very minor matter, and is dealt with by incineration, burial etc. Suitable meat condemned at the slaughterhouses is utilised at the Ledbury Hunt Kennels.

Milk Supplies.

This District is practically entirely agricultural with nearly 300 milk producers. Most of the milk produced is consumed outside the District and is taken up to the City of Gloucester for pasteurising, or processed at Messrs. Cadbury's factory at Frampton-on-Severn.

The general supervision of dairy farm premises and milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Council have powers under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, with regard to the spread of infectious disease by milk. 1 cowman was excluded from handling cows, owing to a case of Scarlet Fever.

The Council is responsible for registration and licences as shown in Tables 13 and 14, and for retail milk sampling as shown in Table 15.

Table 13. Issue of Licences for Milk Dealers.

Classification of Milk.	Dealers' Licences.	Supplementary Licences.
Accredited.	–	–
Tuberculin Tested.	4	2
Pasteurised.	–	–
Sterilised.	–	–
Non-Designated.	–	–

Note:- Supplementary Licences are issued to dealers who distribute milk from premises situated outside the District.

Table 14. Milk Registrations.

No. of milk distributors registered.	6
No. of dairy premises registered (other than dairy farms).	3

Table 15. Retail Milk Sampling.

Nature of Test.	Results of Examination.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Coliform or plate count (cleanliness).	3	3
Methylene blue (keeping quality).	3	3
Biological (presence of Tb etc).	3	3
Phosphatase (efficiency of pasteurisation).	–	–

Anthrax Order, 1938. Foot and Mouth Disease.

4 suspected cases of Anthrax were notified during the year, but none were confirmed.

MEAT

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924-1952.

Slaughterhouses.

In 1939 there were 4 licensed slaughterhouses in the District which were all closed down at the outbreak of War, and slaughtering was centralised at large Ministry of Food controlled slaughterhouses, none of which were in this District.

With the de-control of meat in July, 1954, the Ministry encouraged the re-opening of private slaughterhouses and Local Authorities were made responsible for ensuring that slaughtering facilities were adequate.

There are now 2 slaughterhouses functioning (Newent and Dymock).

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954.

18 slaughtermen are licensed by the Council.

The following table shows the results of carcase inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. It is very satisfactory to note that 100% of carcases were inspected.

Table 16.

		Bovine.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
No. killed.		69	–	318	45	432
No. inspected.		69	–	318	45	432
% Inspected to No. killed.		100%	–	100%	100%	100%
(a) Whole carcases condemned.	All diseases other than Tuberculosis.	–	–	–	–	–
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.		14	–	2	2	18
(c) % No. inspected affected with disease.		20.3%	–	0.7%	4.4%	4.2%
(a) Whole carcases condemned.	Tuberculosis only.	–	–	–	–	–
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.		2	–	–	–	2
(c) % of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis.		2.9%	–	–	–	0.4%

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This Department is notified when shops or individuals suspect that articles of food are unfit for human consumption.

Table 17 shows the articles of food condemned during the year.

Table 17.

Articles.	Non-Preserved.	Preserved or Tinned.
Sausages.	12 lbs.	
Meat.	78 lbs.	
Milk.		24 tins.
Vegetables.		1 tin.
Fruit and Fruit Juices.		10 tins.
Soup.		88 tins.
Jam.		5 tins.
		2 tins.

It will be seen that the total amount of food stuffs condemned was not large.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations, 1947 & 1948.

During the year no ice cream was manufactured in the District. There are 11 licensed retailers, of which two manufacture their own ice cream outside the District, while the other retailers purchase from large wholesalers.

Bakehouses.

There are 6 bakehouses registered with the Ministry of Food. Most of the bakehouses are of old construction and cannot easily be modernised.

Adulteration.

The relevant sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are administered by the County Council.

Outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

During the year, no notifications of cases of food poisoning were received.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Table 18.
1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises.	No. of premises in Register.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	23	46	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	27	39	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers).	7	14	-	-
TOTAL	57	99	-	-

Table 19.
2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	No. of cases where defects were found.				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M.I.	Referred by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1).	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3).	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4).	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	-	-	-	-	-
Latrines (S.7).					
(a) insufficient.	3	3	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Homework).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

Table 20.
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of work.	Section 110.			Section 111.		
	No. out-workers in Aug. list as req'd.	No. of cases of default in sending lists.	No. prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	Cases of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel (Making).	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table 29 shows the incidence of infectious diseases during the year divided into Parishes and age groups. 178 notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, of which 160 were measles.

DIPHTHERIA AND IMMUNISATION.

Tables 22 to 24 give details as to diphtheria immunisation which, as they are of interest to this Council, have been obtained from the County Public Health Department.

There have been no cases of diphtheria in the District since 1949.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

There were no cases notified during the year.

SMALL POX AND TYPHOID.

There were no cases, and no contacts requiring supervision were notified as having come into the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

Table 21 shows the incidence of infectious disease according to returns submitted by the head-teachers. It is of interest, as it shows the incidence of chicken pox and mumps which are not notifiable by General Practitioners.

Table 21.

School.	Average No. on Register.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Mumps.	'Flu.
Bromsberrow.	23	–	–	6	–	–	4
Corse C. of E.	51	–	–	–	–	9	2
Dymock.	139	–	–	–	–	47	25
Hartpury.	56	–	–	–	12	–	–
Lowbands. (Redmarley).	40	–	–	3	–	–	–
Newent Grammar.	509	–	2	–	–	–	–
Newent. (Picklenash).	304	9	70	1	34	21	–
Pauntley.	31	–	7	–	–	–	–
Staunton.	28	–	27	–	–	–	–
Tibberton.	47	–	–	–	–	–	–
Upleadon.	26	1	–	–	–	–	18
TOTAL	1254	10	106	10	46	77	49

In accordance with the recommendations of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of infectious disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Table 22. Child Population immunised during 1954.

No. of children who completed a full course of immunisation during 1954.	Age at date of final injection.		Total under 15 years.
	0-5 years.	5-14 years.	
During half-year ended 30.6.54.	61	9	70
During half-year ended 31.12.54.	35	3	38
TOTAL	96	12	108

Table 23. Child Population receiving a maintenance dose during 1954 (i.e. a reinforcing dose a few years after the primary immunisation).

During half-year ended 30.6.54.	83
During half-year ended 31.12.54.	34
TOTAL	117

Table 24. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation (children under 15 years only).

Notifications.		Deaths.	
Cases Notified.	Cases Immunised.	Immunised.	Not Immunised.
-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table 25 shows the additions to the Tuberculosis Register during the year and is divided into 'new cases' i.e., cases first diagnosed while living in the District, and 'in-transfer cases' i.e., cases of notified tuberculosis who have come to live in the District.

Table 25. New, In-Transfer Cases and Deaths in 1954.

Age	New Cases.				In-Transfers.				Total.	Deaths.			
	Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.			Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
1-	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20+	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–
25+	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
35+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
45+	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–
55+	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
65+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Age N.K.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	4	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	6	1	–	–	–

Table 26. Cases on the Tuberculosis Register on the 31st December for the last three years.

Year.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	Per 1,000 Population	
	M	F	M	F		Newent.	County.
1952.	15	11	7	3	36	4. 4	8.2
1953.	15	10	5	3	33	4.05	8.6
1954.	17	11	6	2	36	4.38	8.8

Table 27. New, In-Transfer Cases and Deaths in the last three years.

Year.	New and In-Transfer Cases.				Total.	Deaths.				Total
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
1952.	3	6	–	–	9	–	–	–	–	–
1953.	3	3	1	1	8	–	1	–	–	1
1954.	4	1	1	–	6	1	–	–	–	1

Table 28. Cases on Tuberculosis Register on December 31st, 1954.
(By Age Groups)

Age.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	M	F	M	F	
1-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-	-
10+	-	-	-	-	-
15+	2	2	-	-	4
20+	2	2	3	-	7
25+	2	2	1	-	5
30+	5	1	-	-	6
35+	-	1	1	-	2
40+	1	-	-	1	2
45+	1	1	-	-	2
50+	-	1	-	-	1
55+	1	1	-	-	2
60+	3	-	1	1	5
TOTAL	17	11	6	2	36

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (SECTION 172).

No action has been necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

Re-Housing of Tuberculosis Cases.

On the 31st December, 1954, there were 36 cases of notified tuberculosis in the District of which 4 were living in Council houses. This does not mean that the other cases are necessarily living under bad housing conditions. Tuberculosis cases living under unsatisfactory housing conditions are reported to the Council, and every effort to re-house them should be made.

Good housing is a long-term policy with regard to the eradication of tuberculosis. It helps towards the cure of the disease, but even more important is the fact that it reduces the likelihood of household contacts becoming infected.

Tuberculosis After Care.

An After Care Committee was formed in 1950 to assist tuberculosis cases in the combined area of Tewkesbury, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Districts. It is purely voluntary, except for a grant of £5 per annum for stationery and postage from the County Council. Financially, thanks to voluntary subscriptions etc., the Committee is in quite a good position and so far, no case deserving assistance has been refused.

The total number of cases of tuberculosis in the area served by the Committee is .312.

Table 29.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious Disease.	Number of Cases by Age Groups.											Distribution of Cases by Parishes.													
	0 +	1 +	3 +	5 +	10 +	15 +	25 +	45 +	65 +	Age not known.	Total.	Bromsberrow.	Corse.	Dymock.	Hartpury.	Kempley.	Newent.	Oxenhall.	Pauntley.	Redmarley.	Rudford.	Staunton.	Taynton.	Tibberton.	Upleadon.
Scarlet Fever.	–	–	1	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	–
Whooping Cough.	–	2	2	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–
Diphtheria.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Measles (excluding G.M).	5	19	20	108	7	–	1	–	–	–	160	–	19	2	12	–	97	–	–	–	1	24	2	2	1
Ac. Pneumonia (Prim. or 'Flu).	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	3	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Meningococcal Infection.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ac. Polio-myelitis. (P).	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ac. Polio- " (N.P).	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ac. Enceph (Inf).	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ac. " (Post. Inf).	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dysentery.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ophth. Nenonatorum.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Puerperal Pyrexia.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Small Pox.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Para-Typhoid Fever.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Enteric Fever.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Food Poisoning.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Erysipelas.	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Malaria (contracted E.W).	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	5	21	26	116	7	–	2	1	–	–	178	4	19	2	13	–	104	1	–	–	2	27	2	3	1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1954.

Table 30 gives the causes of death in the District in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

Table 30.

Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	–
2. Tuberculosis, other.	–	–
3. Syphilitic disease.	–	–
4. Diphtheria.	–	–
5. Whooping Cough.	–	–
6. Meningococcal infections.	–	–
7. Acute polio-myelitis.	–	–
8. Measles.	–	–
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	–	–
*10. (Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	–	2
11. (Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	–
12. (Malignant neoplasm, breast.	–	2
13. (Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	–	–
14. (Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	2	3
15. (Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	–	–
16. Diabetes.	–	–
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	11
18. Coronary disease, angina.	6	3
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	3	–
20. Other heart disease.	8	13
21. Other circulatory disease.	3	3
22. Influenza.	–	–
23. Pneumonia.	1	–
24. Bronchitis.	2	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	–	–
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	–	–
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	–	–
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	–
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	–	–
31. Congenital malformations.	–	–
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	5	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	2	–
34. All other accidents.	1	2
35. Suicide.	–	–
36. Homicide and operations of War.	–	–
TOTAL	42	46

Explanatory note.

*Neoplasm equals cancer.